

1-1-1900

## Clippings relating to the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, 1898 and undated

MSRC Staff

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dh.howard.edu/bethelliterary>

---

### Recommended Citation

Staff, MSRC, "Clippings relating to the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, 1898 and undated" (1900). *Bethel Literary and Historical Association*. 12.

<https://dh.howard.edu/bethelliterary/12>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Manuscript Division at Digital Howard @ Howard University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Bethel Literary and Historical Association by an authorized administrator of Digital Howard @ Howard University. For more information, please contact [lopez.matthews@howard.edu](mailto:lopez.matthews@howard.edu).



### "Upper Story Work for Girls."

Prof. W. H. Richards, president of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, which holds its regular meetings at Metropolitan A. M. E. church, deserves much credit for the wisdom and forethought shown in presenting suitable entertainments for the members and visitors who attend these meetings. The Bethel Literary has long since held the boards as a "stellar attraction," and the lecture last night was of the "usual excellence."

Rev. Dr. Mayo, of Boston, who has been delivering a series of lectures at Howard University, concluded the series at the Lyceum last night. His subject being, "Upper Story Work for American Girls." Dr. Mayo began his discourse by speaking of the anarchy of institutions of learning for girls fifty or sixty years ago. Baltimore, he said, led off about 15 or 20 years ago by letting girls have equal show with boys in the higher education, and that it was only a short while ago that girls were taught Latin in Boston. The speaker referred to the advantages the war gave in showing the people something of the country. It gave the people a knowledge of geography such as they had never learned before, and since the war many people from the North have gone into the South to make their fortunes, and several states have been added to the Union. As a result of this knowledge there has been an increase of wealth, making this the richest country on the globe. Women maintained the country during the war while the men were at the front. Society was kept up and its standard raised. Why not give them a chance of continuing in the great work? To do this they must know more. The little smattering of English that was given them will not do it. Home, school, church, society, all look to women for assistance.

The speaker then proceeded to discuss the subject. He drew the plan of a house of five stories and proceeded to build from the basement, which he denominated the industrial class, from the lowest to the highest, showing that education was an absolute necessity. This was followed by the successive stories: Home, school, church and society, each giving special attention as to requirements. The speaker insisted that the increased intelligence of the girls was of the high-

est importance to society. That the making of society belongs to the women; men become just what women make them. The speaker concluded amid prolonged applause.

The exercises opened with an invocation by R. S. Smith, Esq., and a piano solo by Miss Grace Daniels, the young daughter of Prof. Daniels, organist of Zion Baptist church. Miss Daniels' playing was so much appreciated that she was asked to render another selection at the conclusion of the lecture.

Prof. Kelly Miller offered a vote of thanks to the speaker which



# AN AUTUMN SYMPHONY.

By EDWARD M. LIPSCOMBE.

As morning woke I walked alone,  
'Mid all the hues that autumn knows,  
Through Eno's great grey wood,  
Till, all my night-won vigor gone,  
Upon a mossy seat I chose,  
I sat in silent mood.

'Twas from the border of this wood  
I viewed a valley stretching far,  
Flowered and willowed o'er,  
And smiling to the trees that stood,  
Like Titans all arrayed for war,  
On tinted hills that bore  
A wealth of timber thick and tall;  
Where sunrise, lighting up the scene,  
Had spread its veil of gold,  
And where the nodding giants all  
Stood, moss-gray, in the morning sheen,  
Like patriarchs of old.

I watched a romping wind at play  
Among the dreamy willow-trees,  
Till music sweet and low,  
Like siren voices far away,  
Came down the valley on the breeze.  
The spell apace did grow;  
And then I pleaded, that again,  
The genius breathing notes like these,  
Borne on the zephyr's wing,  
Would speak, and speak in longer strain;  
When, like the hum of culling bees,  
A harp's low whispering  
Came oozing through the ambient air.  
'Tis thus the ripples of the sea  
Steal from the ocean wide,  
Where, in the storm, the mermaid fair,  
Singing her sea-born melody,  
So loves to float and ride—  
Thus, mingling sweetly as they ride,  
The whispers by the lisping sea,  
That charm and woo and win,  
Do hint, in echoes modified,  
Of mermaid's plaint of sailor's glee,  
Of sea-birds coming in;  
Of coming tide that, rising high,  
Brings in the voices of the sea,  
Which fathoms deep have lain.  
Joined in that grand accordant sigh  
That ne'er will let the ocean be  
Calm and at rest again.

O, wizard harp, concealed and lone,  
High hung upon the willow-tree  
In thy enchanted vale!  
O, harp, that spirits breathe upon,  
Waking the songs of mystery  
That ride upon the gale!  
Why, haunted wind-harp, dost thou sigh  
When, in the summer, zephyrs blow,  
And in the winter wail?  
Why like a mother's lullaby,  
Then the loud torrent's angry flow,  
Is thy weird wind-borne tale?  
O, hidden harp that weeps alone,  
Or meantime laughs, for other times,  
For all the ages dead!  
Sage oracle in things unknown,  
In thy bewitching chords and chimes,  
O, sing of cycles fled!  
Sing me the gamut of the days  
Of now, of then, of long ago,  
Sing of the world when young!  
Thus guide me through the vital haze  
From which thy numbers overflow  
In universal tongue!

Thus, eagerly, I dared implore  
This chanting wind-harp in the vale  
To speak to me in song;  
And thus the sweet enchanter hoar  
Began to breathe its magic tale,  
And sang the whole day long.  
So, luring first by whispering,  
The hidden harp began to sing;  
And language full and clear  
Its modulated notes did bring  
As ever dream, on airy wing,  
Bade any dreamer hear.  
My soul, enraptured, went away  
Upon the wings of harmony;  
And there the livelong day,  
I sat and heard the spirits play  
Upon that harp unceasingly.

O, minstrel old and gray,  
Embowered in thy unknown tree,  
Attune the zephyr and the gale,  
And on the airy sea,  
Fling the sweet chords of witchery  
In which thy many-sided tale  
Was borne, that day, to me!



Under  
D. Wright. I

bor, delivered a lecture  
Literary and Historic Assn  
Metropolitan A. M. E. ch  
night to an immense audience. a happy

Prof. W. H. Richards, in the  
speech, introduced the speaker as  
most useful man in the United States.

The speaker began by saying:

Religion, in a comprehensive  
according to definition, includes a be-  
lief in the being and perfection of God,  
in the revelation of His will to man,  
in man's obligation to His commands,  
and in man's accountableness to  
God; and it also includes true godliness  
or purity of life, with the practice of all  
moral duties. As distinct from theolo-  
gy, religion is godliness or real purity  
in practice, consisting in the perform-  
ance of all known duties to God and  
our fellow-men and ourselves, from  
love to God and His law."

\* \* \*

"Religion in politics means that line  
of action in human, public affairs,  
which best does honor to God's laws,  
preserves the rights and conserves  
the peace and welfares of the greatest  
numbers; which requires of us that  
high duty of obedience to God, loyalty  
to our own consciences, and love to  
our neighbors.

"Any political precepts, parties or  
platforms, demanding less are mere  
machines for the manipulation of the  
masses by which private ends become  
superior to public needs."

The speaker then proceeded to illus-  
trate the relation of religion to politics,  
breaking down, step by step, the popu-  
lar fallacy that the affairs of govern-  
ment properly belong to men of God-  
less tendencies and dishonest motives.  
"The alleged corruptness in politics  
is due", said he, "to the withdrawal of  
religious men from participation in the  
primary of his political party."

"The caucus is the political tree, and  
virtue or corruption is the political  
fruit, as sure as harvest follows seed-  
time. If religion in its broad sense of  
duty to God, to man and self demands  
anything at our hands by way of labor,  
of sacrifice, of effort, of intention or  
action, and if we demand of our gov-  
ernments purity of administration, the  
caucus as surely claims our attention,  
our presence, our encouragement. A  
man had better remain away from the  
polls, if he cannot attend both, than  
the primary."

The methods of professional poli-  
ticians who are willing to sacrifice hon-  
or for political power was portrayed in  
striking colors. As an example of  
this class Aaron Burr was pointed to.  
Daniel Webster, a profound advocate  
of freedom, lost much of the honor  
which should have illumined his name  
by subscribing to the "Fugitive Slave  
law." Stephen Douglass and other  
brilliant men of his time fell into Web-  
ster's error and the luster and fame of  
these men rest under a cloud.

"The lesson I would have sink into  
your minds and hearts is fidelity to the  
divine commands reiterated again and  
again, and embodied in the Declara-  
tion on which is founded our own gov-  
ernment. Equality of law means obli-  
gation to the highest attributes of law,  
and it is based on divine laws, and a  
government founded upon them can-  
not endure except in a Christian com-  
munity. We must learn to be faith-  
ful to God's ordained rule of action,  
which means faithful following of  
Christ's precepts in all private and pub-  
lic work."

At the conclusion of the address the  
discussion was participated in by Hon.  
Jerre Brown, of Ohio, Mr. Ewing, Rev.  
Coston, Rev. Walter H. Brooks, D. D.,  
Rev. Geo. W. Lee, D. D. R. S. Smith,  
Esq., offered a motion for a vote of  
thanks which passed unanimously.  
Comment was free and Prof. Richards  
received many compliments for hav-  
ing secured to the lyceum the services  
of so distinguished a personage. The  
piano solo by Miss Janette Williams  
was highly



The above subject was recently discussed last night at a meeting of Bethel Literary and Historical society. The first paper was by Mrs. Ella Smith Elbert and was a complete digest of the economic question of domestic service. Owing to the absence of Mrs. Elbert the paper was read by Miss

Brooks. After dealing with many complexities of domestic service, the social stigma which attaches to those who perform household service for pay; the many sacrifices, both of health and pleasure, which the present system of domestic service entailed upon both employer and employee, the foreign element in domestic service as against the native element and kindred ills, the paper concludes thus:

"The industrial barriers must be broken down by the education along economic lines of both mistress and maid and by the application on the part of these of the principles learned. Both must be trained in household affairs, in problems of health and hygiene, in proper cleaning and cooking etc. The conscience of the employers must be aroused and a moral revolution must take place in order that they may do all in their power to remove the social stigma which attaches itself to the domestic service of today."

Miss Mattie R. Bowen spoke on "The Trials and Temptations of Domestic Service." There is not a more earnest and forceful speaker in the District of Columbia than Miss Bowen, and her discussion of this particular phase of the subject was eloquent and effective.

Miss Bowen spoke of the early life of those who go forth to toil, how they are made acquainted with privations and the struggle for bare existence from the earliest period of their lives. The young girl sees the heavy load borne by the weary mother, the sad and discouraged countenance of the father and the poor young thing goes forth into the world to battle for even the ordinary comforts of life. The growing girl is kept on the run from morning till night by her smiling mistress. As years go by she begins to long for the pleasures and finery dear to the feminine heart. The little wages she receives gives her nothing to spare for these and here the first temptation arises.

The social barrier between the mistress and the maid will not allow her the privilege of seeing her male friends at the house, her own home is too crowded to admit of visitors, and she must go to the "good" places outside where temptations of the vilest sort are placed in the way of the poor girl. In church the social lines are drawn and the girl is embarrassed on every side. All she receives from her friends is advice which makes her life all the more miserable because she has no way nor have these friends prepared a way for her to put this advice into practice.

The speaker here made a most eloquent plea for the girls, citing that amid all the discussions of the better classes of our people we never let our observation go farther than our own charmed circle. The need of back-sally investigations because these people are the ones who come

most in contact with the white people and from them opinions are formed concerning the whole race. We need to practice some of our preaching, to the end that our words will be arguments for good and wholesome living.

Miss Bowen was applauded throughout the whole of her speech and was the recipient of many expressions of approval.

The next paper was on the "Opportunities of the Domestic Servant" by Mrs. Isabel M. Howard. In this paper Mrs. Howard brought out the refining and educational advantages of domestic service. The self control necessary to do good service has its

impress upon the life of the individual thus strengthening the character. The care of the house, control of children, copying the methods of the mistress, the art of home making all have a strong impress upon the life of the individual and when coupled with an honest purpose make of one a far better individual than unlimited education would ever do. Domestic service is not so much regarded as degrading now as in former years and those who are best adapted to doing the work required are always in demand at fair compensation.

The paper was discussed by Prof. Ewing, Mrs. Hellen Cook, Prof. Kelly Miller, Mrs. Ham, Mrs. Murray and others. A vote of thanks was offered by Prof. Hershaw which was seconded by Rubin S. Smith Esq.



"Ourselves."

Mr. Lewis H. Douglass read a paper on the above subject the Bethel Literary and

Society, last night, which for argument and forceful reasoning excelled anything we have heard at any time heretofore.

Mr. Douglass pointed out the peculiar deficiencies in the race which operate against us. Mr. Douglass emphasised the importance of supporting our own industries and thereby build up for ourselves businesses which will furnish employment for the boys and girls now graduating from the several schools and colleges. The speaker said that much of the responsibility for the treatment accorded us was due to our own lack of self respect. That we show evidence of ability of improvement and yet we are lacking in those things which really make for our own well being. The so called prejudice is more often our own lack of adapting ourselves to the conditions which surround us. The colored servant is displeased by the servant; not because the white servant is preferred to colored as a matter of choice, but because the colored servant does not improve the opportunities given him, but spends his time in idle frivolity instead of studying the needs of his employer.

The tendency of our people of inconsiderate means, to ape the extremely wealthy of the white race was also very forcibly illustrated. A race of people possessing no reserve capital, giving \$700.00 Inauguration balls, to say nothing of the additional expense of dress and carriage hire, was a strong point in Mr. Douglass' argument. The speaker emphasised the fact that the Negro needed to learn the art of service in order that he may demand sufficient pay to make his service remunerative. The surplus money of the Negro could be used for so many purposes for the betterment of the race. That we must first overcome the prejudices against ourselves before we complain about the prejudices of the white man against us.

The paper was punctuated with tremendous applause.

At the conclusion of the paper Prof. J. W. Cromwell announced the fact that Prof. Council, president of Normal School, Normal, Ala., was present, and President Richards asked that Prof. Council address the Lyceum. Prof. Council responded in a most practical speech which was most happily received. Prof. Council was followed by John P. Green, Esq., and by Mrs. Ida L. Baily. The musical selection by Miss Jennie Kelly was splendidly rendered and brought forth much favorable comment.

Mr. W. L. Joiner moved a vote of thanks to the speaker of the evening, prefacing his motion with a statement that of all men competent to discuss the question, Mr. Douglass was that man. Mr. Joiner then spoke of his personal knowledge of Mr. Douglass as a man who practiced his preaching.

President Richards called on Mr. A. L. Manly, editor of the DAILY RECORD, who responded in a few remarks touching upon the subject under discussion.



The above subject  
before Bethel Literary and Historical  
Association last night by Hon. William  
B. Powell, Superintendent of the Pub-  
lic Schools of the District of Columbia.

Mr. Powell began his address by making comparisons between the old school system and the one which now obtains in this community. The onward march of civilization with its many and varied improvements was depicted in eloquent language. The progress of the "Yankee" system of doing things over the European was illustrated by an incident which the speaker observed while in England sometime ago. In Kent they use two horses to a plow, tandem, with a man to lead the first horse and another to hold the plow; two men and two horses plow one furrow. In America two horses are hitched side by side to a gang plow, one man rides the plow and three furrows are plowed. The difference in the saving of one man and two furrows places England fifty years behind America. This progress is shown in other things and particularly shown in the educational system. The philosophy of teaching was most interestingly portrayed and the prize system was mildly denounced. The speaker declared that the noblest qualities of a boy or girl are not developed by appealing to them to beat somebody either by the proffer of a prize or credit marks. The standard of excellence should be based upon the pupil's desire to learn for the sake of knowing something and not because he beat someone. The dull boy was dealt with in a most interesting manner. The question of how to make him like school and like study was ably discussed. The old method of teaching about things where no object lessons were given was compared to the new method, placing the child in touch with things to study and handle and then read about them. The work of the Kindergarten was most interestingly spoken of. The present system as compared to the old was like the old one horse mill compared to the great flour manufactories of the West. The manual training system was also spoken of showing that the idea was to get the boy to work for the sake of getting knowledge thereby causing him to love labor.

The speaker of the evening was followed by Mr. A. F. Hillyer, who spoke of matters which came under his observation pertaining to the new school system as compared with his own education.

Prof. Kelly Miller stated that the new system was progressive while the old system was conservative; that instead of the two working in opposition to each other they simply worked at right angles; that for the radical reformer or progressionist to demand the first does not mean the latter is wholly worthless. Prof. Miller said that he was opposed to the system of marking pupils according to a fixed standard of perfection. That a pupil should be measured by himself; that if he did the best he could he should be marked perfect and if he only did half as well as he could then he should receive only half credit.

The motion for a vote of thanks was made by Mr. W. L. Joiner.

Mr. Robt. J. Harland recited Rudyard Kipling's poem "The Blind Begger" with piano accompaniment, by Mrs. E. D. Williston.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1898

## INJUSTICE IN THE SCHOOLS

Hints for Parents Who Send  
Their Children.

Defective Ventilation, Miserable  
Drainage and Overherding  
Cause Many Ills.

One species of injustice always rankles deep in my heart. It is when a child, a dullard, is cuffed, abused, threatened, beaten, because he fails to develop a student's qualifications. A teacher of the book-laggard, incensed at his slow progress, sends home a note of complaint. The mother's feelings are ruffled. She in turn must do something to somebody, so she pours out her vials of wrath on the head of her defenseless juvenile, for the child is defenseless, because of actual lack of brains. The object of her anger, cowed into positive imbecility, cannot make proper headway. Poor little shaver; he is scared quite out of his wits at the start. Now, I would like to know how parents dare hold a child responsible for being the possessor of a mind lacking in brilliancy. A defective memory, a thick skull, a mentality anything but keen-edged is in most cases inherited, as much so as the eyes, the hair, the skin, or any other feature. The dull child was brought into the world a heavy thinker, and it will go down to its grave a heavy thinker, no matter how much time or money is spent in the mind-polishing process.

Here is a hint for the parent who does not object to donning a thinking cap. We have in our schools, and a crying shame it is, what is commonly known as "school ailments." We have actually become accustomed to referring to them as such. Many times the ailment takes but one form, complete inactivity of mind and body. The tiny pupil drags to school and wearily drags home again, and what a hapless struggle goes on in the small frame between the physical and the mental. "No appetite," wails the mother. "No ambition," growls the teacher. There is friction right away. The child is nagged from all quarters. It hasn't sense enough to know what is the matter, and the older people do not try to find out.

Common sense in the garb of a physician needs to step in about now. It would not take the practiced eye of a good doctor very long to discover the mischief at work. Defective ventilation, miserable drainage, overherding of the little folks, and then how he would hustle about until he brought the persons interested to their senses. Parents are utterly blind in so many instances to the best interests of the small students of the household. They expect them to accomplish wonders with all odds against them. We should banish from our land such a pest as the school disease. It ought to cease to claim recognition. This age is too enlightened for such heathenism. Why don't some of the feminine reformists take up the evil? I have great faith in reform when women are stirred to action. Talk about prevention of cruelty to animals; talk about Audubon societies; why, that sort of philanthropy is mere play compared with the work awaiting the philanthropist in the school room.

Take your boy's newest jacket or your girl's prettiest frock and sniff at the vile odors that are clinging to it because of overheated, overcrowded space, because of vitiated atmosphere. A child's garment worn any length of time in most of our public schools soon tells the tale. It is an eloquent, though silent witness of the lack of pure oxygen.

The little folks are not dealt wisely or sympathetically with in the school-room. Meager is the allowance made by the average instructor engaged in the forcing process to discover the physical as well as the mental peculiarities of his pupils. All are bunched. If one is smarter than the rest he is patted on the back. This child's neighbor from sense-inferiority lingers in the background and scorn is his portion. The dullard, failing to secure a helping hand, slips more and more to the rear, until he becomes one more in the rank of unfortunates suffering from misdirected mental culture.—Dorothy Maddox, in Philadelphia Times.

Success Scored in Art.



### John Bunyan.

Rev. J. Albert Johnson, D. D., pastor of Metropolitan A. M. E. Church, read a most interesting and instructive paper on the life and times of John Bunyan, the author of Pilgrim's Progress, before the Bethel Literary and Historical Association last night.

"Pilgrim's Progress" is one of the best known books, except the Bible that has ever been published; but of the author little was known except, perhaps, that the book was written while the author was in prison, sometime about 1660. It remained for Dr. Johnson to give the audience, last night, glimpses into the life of John Bunyan himself taken apart from his great book. The biographical sketch of the great Bunyan was drawn with all the coloring and detail necessary to portray to a cultivated audience a personage of so great and striking a personality. The imprisonment of Bunyan on the charge of causing unlawful religious assemblages, his resignation, his piety, his faith in God were all depicted in language almost sublime. Dr. Johnson spoke of the wide circulation of "Pilgrim's Progress" in many languages and the wonderful amount of good he accomplished among all nations. Not only was Bunyan a mighty writer but a most powerful preacher and his sermons are preached today with as much fervor and strength as they were nearly three centuries ago. He is quoted in law, in poetry, song, in debate. "Pilgrim's Progress" has been done into verse, has been done into drama, has been done into opera and even in the revisions, which over zealous or hypercritical editors have made, the sublimity of the work shines forth with renewed lustre.

The paper was highly appreciated and at its conclusion R. S. Smith Esq., arose and thanked the speaker for the new light thrown upon a character whose works shall continue to live so long as men admire the good, the pure, the beautiful. Mr. Riley of Pennsylvania also took occasion to thank Dr. Johnson for the beautiful picture drawn of so remarkable a character. A unanimous vote of thanks was given the speaker and others who contributed to the program.

The instrumental solo rendered by Miss Marie James was splendidly rendered and elicited much applause.

### Animals and Civilization.

Last night the Bethel Literary and Historical Association had under consideration the "Relation of Animals to Civilization." Papers were read by Miss Lena E. Wilkes, Miss Charlotte E. Hunter, Mr. Francis J. Cardozo and Mr. Alphonzo O. Stafford. The essayists treated animals from the viewpoint of their economic value, the cruelties practiced upon them, their legal rights, and their claim to humane treatment.

The papers were carefully prepared and many interesting points brought out. Among the thoughts suggested was the relation which man holds to the lower animals, showing God's relation to man.

Prof. Richards, the president, together with the program committee, deserves great credit for the admirable entertainments given the citizens of Washington this season. The very best home and foreign talent have been secured, and the subjects discussed have been of the highest order. The program includes, for the coming meetings, some of the broadest thinkers in the world, making the lyceum an educational institution indeed.

An interesting feature of the entertainment last night was a chorus composed of boys and girls from the Sojourner Truth Home, under the management of Miss Mattie R. Bowen. The solo by Mr. West was much appreciated.

### Bethel Literary

Amusements was the topic for discussion at the above named lyceum last night and most interestingly were the several forms of amusement presented.

"Play for Children" was the subject of a paper by Mrs. Anna E. Murray, who is one of the foremost women in this city in Kindergarten work. Mrs. Murray's paper covered the field of healthful recreation for little folks, showing the relations which exist between proper amusements and healthy morals.

"Amusements for Adolescents" was the subject of a paper by Mrs. Jane Hope Lyons. There is no more important stage in the life of an individual than that of adolescence, or youth, and proper amusements form no small part in the consideration of this stage. Mrs. Lyons' paper was filled with splendid advice, punctuated with enjoyable reminiscences.

"Amusements for Adults" was the subject of a most thoughtful paper on this important topic by Mrs. Helen Douglass.

The several papers formed a most interesting discussion of a most interesting topic and were highly appreciated by the large audience.



### Bethel Literary.

"Founders' Day" was the topic for discussion Tuesday night at the Bethel Literary and Historical Association. The subject "Bethel Literary and Historical Association," was most happily presented by Miss Maria L. Jordan, who gave a most interesting recital of the events in the history of this excellent organization. Miss Jordan stated that the Association began its work 19 years ago and has been in active operation since the beginning. She paid glowing compliments to all the officers who had previously served, not forgetting the admirable service now being rendered by Prof. Richards, Miss Joiner and the other officers. Miss Jordan's paper was greatly enjoyed, and at the conclusion she was presented with a handsome bouquet of flowers.

"Bishop Daniel A. Payne" was the subject of a paper by Mr. Wm. A. Joiner, of the public schools. In a most entertaining and scholarly manner, Mr. Joiner gave glimpses into the life of the great apostle of education. Mr. Joiner's impersonations of Bishop Payne were heartily enjoyed as were the bits of humor woven into the fabric of his recital.

Mr. Joiner stated that Bishop Payne was born at Charleston, S. C., in 1812. of free parents. His father was born free but was decoyed on board a ship and was sold into slavery. He afterward bought his freedom for \$1,000. Bishop Payne's early thirst for knowledge made him study early and late, and at the age of 19 he was engaged in teaching school at Charleston. The passage of a law prohibiting the teaching of colored people caused him to go North. One of the most remarkable events of Bishop Payne's life was the purchase of Wilberforce University. This school was up for sale in 1863 and Bishop Payne walked up and bought the school without a cent in his pocket. It is noteworthy, also, that during the twenty-five years Bishop Payne was over Wilberforce not a single graduate was known to darken the door of a prison. Bishop Payne died in 1893.

So interestingly was the story of Bishop Payne's life told that no one realized that fully an hour had elapsed in the recital. Mr. Joiner is a graduate of Wilberforce University and also from Howard Law College.

Rev. J. Albert Johnson was to have read a paper on "The Methodists" but could not attend on the account of illness.



## Bethel Literary

The audience at Bethel Literary last night listened with peculiar interest and approval to an address by Prof. Jas. B. Dudley, president of the A. and M. College, Greensboro, N. C., subject: "Reflections on the Negro Question."

In his introduction of the speaker, President Richards spoke especially of the work accomplished by Prof. Dudley in the State of North Carolina whom he referred to as the founder of two building and loan associations which are now in flourishing condition. Was for 16 years principal of the Peabody school at Wilmington and has been president of the A. and M. College at Greensboro for four years. Prof. Dudley's success as a teacher and organizer made him especially competent to discuss this question, coming as he does from among people who are making strenuous efforts to disfranchise the Negro and otherwise stultify him in his material progress.

Prof. Dudley began by saying that he did not expect his remarks to meet with the unanimous approval of the audience but that from his long association with conditions and people of the South, his knowledge of current affairs and the fact that most of our people must remain in the South, we could at least allow one to differ from another without causing hard feelings or ascribing one's actions to ulterior motives.

Prof. Dudley referred briefly to the "white government" movement in the South and the evident causes which are bringing such a condition about. He spoke of the relative taxes paid by the two races even in those parts where the population was 90 per cent. colored, showing by his process of reasoning that the 10 per cent. of white people paid the greater part of the taxes and were entitled to representation on that account. He referred to the intelligence of the one class as against the ignorance of the other and showed that in the nature of things there was something wrong in the Negro's political demands. The speaker contended that our needs are not met by the giving of office or by the acceptance of political power. He referred briefly to the mob rule in Wilmington in November 1898 at which time a powerful and intelligent minority overpowered and drove out of place a weak and ignorant majority and even defied the National government to interfere. He spoke of the wholesale immigration of the Negro from the South and the influx of capital from the North. This, he said, was one of the levers by which much good could be done if some means could be employed by which

## Prof. W. H. Richards Declines

The Bethel Lyceum is unanimous in its choice of Prof. Richards for another term, but on account of much needed rest and other duties that the present incumbent positively refuses to serve. It is an established fact, acknowledged by visitors, members and former officers, that the lyceum has attained to a higher plane of efficiency and service than since it was first organized. This observation was clearly set forth in the remarks made by Prof. L. M. Hershaw, Mr. R. W. Thompson, Prof. Kelly Miller, Messrs. H. C. Tyson, R. S. Smith, Miss M. R. Bowen and others. The Record is no less desirous of having Prof. Richards succeed himself than are the many who expressed themselves last night.

It is not because there are not others who can fill the place creditably and well, but because of the even temper of the present incumbent, his fairness on all questions, his earnestness, and interest in the lyceum and the race. We hope that in the time which elapses between now and the next election of officers, Prof. Richards will be induced to reconsider his refusal to a re-election.

the Negro could be induced to throw aside the delusion of politics and accept the advantage of this incoming wealth by staying at home and waiting for the turning of the tide which must eventually follow its going out. The speaker deprecated the idea of the Negro attempting to operate separate businesses, but as a reasonable proposition he urged that he buy stock in the business concerns—railroads, steamboats, etc., and thereby take advantage of the white man's skill and financiering. As an evidence of the determination of the white men to control the politics of this country he cited the action of the North Carolina State Republican convention in turning down Recorder of Deeds, Hon. H. P. Cheatham, who was a candidate for delegate at large to the National Convention in Philadelphia.

The speech was logical, forceful and dispassionate. There was no attempt to justify the wrongs committed by the one side against the other, only a strong argument for the Negro to do the best he can under these peculiar circumstances.

At the conclusion of the address Prof. L. M. Hershaw stated that he was much pleased to have a clear and concise statement of real conditions, with a reasonable remedy for existing evils. R. S. Smith, Esq., Rev. T. H. Hill of the A. M. E. Zion Conference and others discussed the paper.

Because of the absence of the secretary, Miss L. M. Jordan acted as secretary.

The music furnished by Miss Mary Europe was much enjoyed.

At the close of the exercises the lyceum held a meeting for the purpose of electing officers for the forthcoming year, but so insistent were the members that Prof. Richards

should serve another term and so persistent was he in his refusal to comply that the election was deferred until next meeting.